



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 3, 2020

The Honorable Frank D. Lucas
U.S. House of Representatives
2405 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

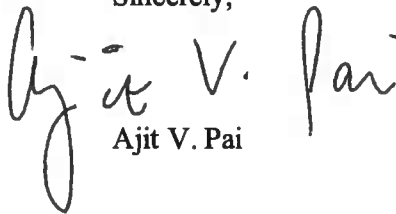
Dear Congressman Lucas:

Thank you for regarding the petition filed by Pineland Telephone Cooperative Inc. (Pineland) for reconsideration of the FCC's December 2018 Report and Order, which revised Alternative Connect America Model support for rural carriers to deploy high-speed broadband to high-cost areas. As you know, closing the digital divide is my top priority, and I am proud of the role that small, rural carriers play in accomplishing that goal.

The Commission's staff sought comment on Pineland's petition earlier this year, and the comment cycle on the matter has closed. Our staff are now carefully reviewing the record in the proceeding. Please be assured that we will take into consideration the issues and concerns presented by all stakeholders—including those of your constituents—as the Commission determines the appropriate course of action.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai